IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Complete Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 74. (Cancelled).

75. A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration in a tablet dosage form comprising:

(a) about 10 to about 40 mg of a non-enteric coated substituted benzimidazole proton pump inhibitor;

(b) a buffer comprising at least 250 mg sodium bicarbonate; and

(c) excipients consisting essentially of (i) at least one disintegrant; (ii) at least one lubricant; and (iii) at least one binder.

76. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 75, wherein the buffer is present in an amount of about 56 to about 97 wt-%.

77. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 76, wherein the disintegrant is present in an amount of about 1 to about 4 wt-%.

78. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is selected from omeprazole, lansoprazole, pantoprazole, rabeprazole, dontoprazole, perprazole (s-omeprazole), habeprazole, ransoprazole, pariprazole, or leminoprazole, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

79. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is omeprazole or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

80. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is s-omeprazole or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

81. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is lansoprazole or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

82. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein the buffer is sodium bicarbonate.

83. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 75, wherein the sodium bicarbonate is present in an amount of about 250 to about 500 mg.

84. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is present in an amount of about 20 mg.

85. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is present in an amount of about 40 mg.

86. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein the buffering agent further comprises a buffering agent selected from the group consisting of potassium bicarbonate, magnesium hydroxide, magnesium lactate, magnesium gluconate, magnesium oxide, magnesium aluminate, magnesium carbonate, magnesium silicate, magnesium citrate, aluminum hydroxide, aluminum hydroxide/magnesium carbonate, aluminum hydroxide/sodium bicarbonate coprecipitate, aluminum glycinate, sodium citrate, calcium citrate, sodium tartrate, sodium acetate, sodium carbonate, sodium polyphosphate, potassium polyphosphate, sodium pyrophosphate, potassium pyrophosphate, disodium hydrogenphosphate, dipotassium hydrogenphosphate, trisodium phosphate, tripotassium phosphate, potassium carbonate, potassium metaphosphate, calcium acetate, calcium glycerophosphate, calcium hydroxide, calcium lactate, calcium carbonate, calcium gluconate, calcium bicarbonate, potassium phosphate, potassium citrate, or mixtures thereof.

87. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein the buffer further comprises magnesium hydroxide.

88. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein the sodium bicarbonate is present in an amount of about 7 mEq to about 25 mEq.

89. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein the proton pump inhibitor is micronized.

90. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77 or claim 87, wherein the buffering agent is present in an amount of about 0.1 mEq to about 5 mEq per mg of proton pump inhibitor.

91. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77 or claim 13, wherein the sodium bicarbonate is present in an amount of about 1 mEq to about 25 mEq.

92. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 75, wherein upon administration of the tablet to a group of subjects, a therapeutically effective amount of the proton pump inhibitor is absorbed within about 10 to about 60 minutes.